

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5590
ANSWERED ON:30.04.2013
SOLAR POWER PUMPS FOR DRIP IRRIGATION
Panda Shri Prabodh

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the State Government of Punjab has launched solar powered pumps for drip irrigation to save water and power as a part of innovative farming methods;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Union Government has any plan to adopt this farming method in other States also; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the steps being taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARIQ ANWAR)

(a) & (b): The Ministry of New and Renewable Energy has sanctioned central financial assistance of Rs. 685.98 lakh to Punjab Energy Development Agency for installation of 600 solar pumps sets for irrigation and other agriculture activities in Punjab. Further, Government of Punjab has agreed to install 100 nos. of DC submersible 2 HP solar photovoltaic water pumps for drip irrigation in horticulture sector with additional subsidy of 40%.

(c) & (d): The Ministry of New and Renewable Energy is implementing "Off-grid and Decentralized Solar Application Scheme" under Jawaharlal Nehru National Solar Mission in the country. Assistance is being provided @ 30% of the project cost limited to Rs.57,000 per kWp for installation of solar water pumps having solar photovoltaic module capacity up to 5 kWp.